

IN RECOGNITION OF KEVIN SHAUGHNESSY, RECIPIENT OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS' PAUL "HOOK" O'MALLEY MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 26, 2018

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin Shaughnessy, who will be honored as Man of the Year by the Ancient Order Hibernians Division 4, the Paul "Hook" O'Malley chapter, on Thursday, March 1. Kevin is a charter member of the AOH chapter named in memory of the late boxing trainer known for his charitable nature. The Man of the Year award is given to an individual who has worked to enrich the well-being of the community in the spirit of "Hook" O'Malley.

Kevin is the son of Jack and Rose Shaughnessy. He is a graduate of West Scranton High School, class of 1988. Kevin currently serves as the Lackawanna County Director of Building and Grounds. In addition to his government position, he has served two three-year terms as an executive board member of the IBEW Local 81 and is a past delegate to the Scranton Central Labor Union. Along with his leadership roles in organized labor, Kevin is a member of the John Mitchell Man of the Year Committee.

It is an honor to recognize Kevin as he receives the Man of the Year award from The Ancient Order of Hibernians. I am grateful for his efforts on behalf of the citizens of Lackawanna County and his colleagues within the labor community. I wish Kevin all the best as he continues to serve his neighbors with the generosity of "Hook" O'Malley.

HIS BOOK OF LOVE, IN MEMORY OF THE REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 26, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of a great American Hero, who touched and blessed so many lives. As an Ambassador of the Gospel he spread the word of our Lord and his Book of Love lifting people up. The Evangelist, The Reverend Billy Graham. I include in the RECORD this poem penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

HIS BOOK OF LOVE

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

His book of love
A gift from above
As was this
To so uplift
As God's kiss
To touch all hearts
As he did his part
To help us walk with God
With no facade
Was Billy thou art
To lighten our burdens
To help open the curtain
Which, separates us for certain
To feel the presence of Jesus Christ, for all those hurting

To give us hope and strength
Reminding us of the power of faith,
all in our short time with him spent
Armed with his gift from God ever forth he went
For the Reverend Billy Graham was such a man
Grabbing hearts,
as he took our hand
A messenger from God in his life span
With his Special Gift
Which was all this
To so uplift
His book of love
From above
A humble man from the South
A holy spirit who espoused
The word of God,
in his voice to all would shout
With him we felt the presence of Jesus Christ,
inside and out
To Save us bringing us to tears no doubt
No matter the denomination
Or the color of one's skin,
he fought against discrimination
And hatred's abomination my friend
As he walked with Dr. King
As the Angels up in Heaven they'd sing
We are all God's children in his equation
He did not just talk the talk
But, throughout his life he walked the walk
For in the sonnets of our lives
What have our moments comprised?
All in our time realized
And what have we left behind?
Who have we Saved or helped in our time?
Did we take or did we give?
Because, it's all about how we've lived
In our short lives
To turn the good from bad,
as Billy had
To spread the word
All in our actions and our deeds
Which all else supersedes
To give this world what she so needs
In that battle as old as time
Of GOOD versus EVIL which comes to mind
For in our darkest hours,
it's only our faith upon us which showers
To strength and courage and hope to find the power
To move forth all in that hour
While, The Reverend Graham's faith above
all so towered
And yet he was such a humble man all
throughout his hours
So, strengthened by his beliefs,
as onward this Christian Soldier battled to achieve
A lifetime to Save souls and bring relief
To walk with Jesus Christ, he'd speak
With his shot heard around the world,
to touch almost every woman and man, boy
and girl
As twelve Presidents counted on him so
With his council of love, hope, faith, and
peace to help them grow
As a Soldier in the Army of our Lord,
the path he strode
He was put on this earth to help us know
The greatest blessings are found in our
Lord's plans we sow
For almost 100 years on earth he walked here
Because, God knew we needed him far more
down here
For his was an open tent into everyone who
went
As we could fill the oceans up with the tears
he brought us to
A great Crusader who with such passion
God's word pursued
Answering his calling,
as you could almost hear the Lord saying, I
love you
As Billy asked us to take that walk of faith
so true

So, one day with our Lord we could live in
Heaven's hue
In Billy's presence,
with God we were always knew
The Holy Spirit
So, all in him imbued
As we could feel it coming through
Whether, on a TV screen or listening to a
radio,
we felt the presence of the Holy Spirit so
true
Giving us strength
Giving us hope
Giving us the faith to somehow cope
As with each new word Billy spoke
The Bible, the word of the Lord he invoked
And with it in hand and upon a pulpit he
would stand
As you could feel the fire and brimstone,
but even more the Lord reaching out his
hand
Telling us you're not alone
Touching every woman, child, and man
Showing us God's plan
Of resurrection and forgiveness and hope
As the love of Christ invoked
As thoughts to our Lord and Heaven awoke
To take that walk down the aisle,
as in that moment we began to smile
To be Saved,
all in his reassuring southern style
As his voice and presence conveyed,
such warmth and hope each day
So simple, so strong,
giving hope to all hearts who so longed
As he was an ambassador of the Lord,
so mighty and so strong
And yet so kind like a love song
In sermons out to hearts on Sunday's poured
The word of God to all restore
As all across the land in cars to work and
churches more
On radios in hearts he forged
Words of gold to souls as the tears began to
pour
I know, because I was one of those for sure
With his book of love the Angels him must
have him so adored
And tears of love flowing from our Lord
And Billy look at your beautiful family,
surely the sum of what love can be
Making our Lord up in Heaven happy even
more
All throughout the world Billy wherever you
spoke
In heart,
the love of Jesus Christ you awoke
We will miss you my son,
and all that you have done
On earth in that war which must be won
But, your voice and words and memory lives
on
Rise
Rise, now my son
Up to Heaven's gate as you have come
With our Lord's arms around you,
his chosen one
With tears in eyes perhaps these words he's
begun
"Billy, you never let me down my blessed
son"
A new Angel in Kingdom Come
To serve in The Army of our Lord this one
To watch over us day and night America's
son
As happily a family reunites up in Heaven's
Sun
And now we lay your body down to rest
We pray our Lord your soul to bless
As you Billy were one of our very best
Who touched so many lives and blessed
Lifting them up with the gift of love to help
them crest
And let us remember,
this man and his embers,
he left behind to warm us in his time in His
Book of Love,
as we go out in our life's quests